



## Interdeployment Training

# Up and Running!

The "Big T" Prepares for the  
2004 Rim of the Pacific Exercises



BM1 Herbert Kresge signals for an armored assault vehicle to return to the right course as it heads for USS Tarawa.

Above, armored assault vehicles make their way toward the well deck of USS Tarawa as the ship conducts normal training operations off the coast of Southern California May 3-14.  
Below, two Marines maneuver their assault vehicle through choppy waters near Camp Pendleton.

## Photos by PH2 Larry Carlson

It was just like old times onboard the 'Big T' recently. During two weeks in early May, *Tarawa* has had the feel of an amphibious warship getting ready for deployment, instead of one just coming out of the shipyards.

As the ship steamed off the coast of Southern California May 3-14, sights and sounds that haven't filled her spaces since the previous deployment in 2003 began to reappear. Marine Harrier jets descended vertically onto the flight deck and then roared off in a matter of seconds. At other times, far below the flight deck, armored assault vehicles churned in and out of the ship's well deck.

"After all that time in the shipyards, I think we were definitely ready to take the ship out, and get all the bells and whistles up and

running," said *Tarawa* crewmember Quartermaster 1<sup>st</sup> Class Angelo Holliday.

Since leaving the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company's yards in mid February after a planned maintenance period, *Tarawa's* crew has been working and training to prepare the ship for the next deployment during increasingly longer under-

way periods. This time out to sea, the crew had to reacquaint themselves with a lot more of those proverbial bells and whistles that haven't been heard since the shipyard pe-

riod.

One sound that definitely hasn't been heard in a long time was the roar of the Close-

In Weapons System (CIWS). During a recent test, *Tarawa's* Fire Controlmen proved that their skills with these rapid-fire Gatling guns used for defense against aerial attacks hadn't become rusty in the shipyards. They knocked down a target towed by



a Lear jet on the first try.

"Chief Andrew's people have been training hard, and I had no doubt that they were going to do well," said Capt. John Riley, about

**Continued on Page 8**



# *A personal letter from the* **COMMANDING OFFICER**

Greetings Tarawa families and friends. Before I start, let me introduce myself. My name is John Riley, and I assumed command from Capt. Jay Bowling during a ceremony Jan. 22 in the shipyards.

I also would like to congratulate Capt Bowling, who recently was promoted to Admiral. He asked me to express his gratitude to the crew for helping him achieve that milestone. We all wish him and his family well.

Before coming here as Tarawa's Commanding Officer, I served as the Executive Officer of USS Essex (LHD-2), forward deployed from Japan. However, my family has been homeported out of San Diego enough that we like to call it our home.

Our command also has a new leadership team onboard. It started with our Executive Officer, Capt. Pete Murphy, who joined us from his most recent tour overseas in the 5th Fleet area of operations (the Middle East). We also have a new Command Master Chief, Mike Schanche, so I would like to welcome both of them and their families. We're all very proud to report to Tarawa at this time in a ship's lifecycle.

Since reporting aboard I have felt very welcome and am very impressed with the crew's professionalism. What a wonderful job they've done in bringing the ship out of drydock to commence our basic training phase. Every inspection and certification has far exceeded the fleet standard, and we are excelling as a crew.

Because the war on terrorism has changed the world in which we live and the Navy in which we serve, Tarawa Sailors have to be ready to deploy immediately. We call this the new Fleet Response Plan. After the crew completes the basic training phase, we could be alerted on shorter notice prior to a lengthy deployment overseas. Some of



our shipmates and their families have already made the sacrifices to help us get ready. I would like to acknowledge those from the Engineering Department. We do recognize that since the Christmas leave in January, they have had to work some very long hours. At every opportunity in the future, we want to maximize their time off.

Speaking of families, we want to reinvigorate the family support system. It's only natural that after a deployment and a long shipyard period that these programs take a dip. With long periods of underway time on the horizon, we're looking to build a new team to help champion this cause. Linda Bonnette currently is doing a wonderful job as our command Ombudsman, and we want to provide her as much help as she needs to connect the families and their Sailors at sea. We would very much appreciate the input of anyone interested in helping.

Also, along these lines, we're looking forward to holding several family functions. Right now, we're looking at our schedule to see what fits best. In the near future, we hope to have a fam-

ily day picnic, and possibly a dependents cruise. These daylong cruises are great opportunities for you to come down and see what your Sailor does on the ship. Later this year, we'll have a Tiger Cruise as we come back from San Francisco in October. Tiger Cruises are longer versions of dependents cruises, usually lasting for several days.

As Tarawa begins to conduct longer operations, spending more time away from homeport, we want to develop an effective line of communication with our families. In addition to our Ombudsman, there are various other ways to stay in touch with your Sailor. Every single Sailor has an email address, which provides a direct line to the ship. We also have a fantastic new web page on the Internet that allows us to post information and news.

On another note of interest for families, we're always looking to improve quality of life. When we return from the Rim of the Pacific exercises at the end of this summer, we'll go into eight-section duty. We'll also keep some outstanding policies that were in effect when we came here. The crew is very much in favor of keeping the working hours from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

From all of this, we want to create an atmosphere where everyone can achieve their desires for personal and professional success. In addition to time with the family, the ship is making new investments into programs that will enhance advancement, as well as other programs to increase college educational opportunities.

We have a new slogan that I want to share with you that I hope catches the spirit of my time as Tarawa's Captain. It matches the brightly lit "1" on the hull of our ship:

"Big 'T', Eagle of the Sea. Number One on the Hull, Number One in the Heart. Second to None."

I'll have more in our next news letter. Until then, take care.

## **The Talon**

This newsletter is an authorized publication intended for families and friends of **USS Tarawa (LHA 1)** crewmembers. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, nor the U.S.

Navy, and does not imply endorsement thereof.

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LISR Elena Velazquez

### **Ship's Ombudsmen**

Lynda Bonnette



## Like to Win a Trip to Palm Springs?



Sailor of the Quarter. Follmer works in the ship's Engineering Department.

"To win Sailor of the Quarter was a great honor, but to receive all of this was the topping on the cake," said Follmer.

The Association of Naval Aviation (ANA)/Desert Storm Squadron and Palm Springs businesses sponsored Follmer's trip Feb. 22-24. The package deal included complimentary accommodations, meals, entertainment and \$100 cash for personal ex-

Once in Palm Springs, Follmer and his wife, Nancy, stayed busy taking in the local attractions.

"I was really excited about taking this trip," said Nancy. "I was so proud of him for making this happen."

"After we arrived, we just couldn't believe it. We were thinking, 'Wow, what are we going to do first,'" said Follmer. "We got to shop and got to go to the Spa Casino. The meals were fantastic and the tours kept us going from the time we got there."

As part of the package deal, the Commanding Officer of ANA Desert Storm Squadron, Gene Ramirez, also visited *Tarawa* April 5 to present Follmer with Congressional certificates of recognition from Congress members Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham and Rep. Mary Bono.

Follmer, who received his Sailor of the Quarter award by standing out as an example of Navy excellence among over 1,000 of his shipmates, also received honors as *Tarawa*'s 2003 Sailor of the Year. Among his many responsibilities, Follmer leads an emergency team that responds to flooding and firefighting situations on the ship. The 37-year-old native of San Gabriel, Calif., has been aboard since 2002.

By JOC(SW) W.R. Polson

Sometimes you just have to do it the old-fashioned way – earn it! Just ask Hull Maintenance Technician 1<sup>st</sup> Class James Follmer, who received a three-day trip to the famed California desert resort city in recognition of the hard work he put in to be honored as USS *Tarawa*'s

penses. In addition to USS *Tarawa*, the ANA Desert Storm Squadron also sponsors similar Sailor of the Quarter packages for the following ships: USS *Boxer*, USS *John C. Stennis*, USS *Belleau Wood*, USS *Nimitz* and USS *Ronald Reagan*.

"With as much as we had been working at that time, the trip was a great chance to have a nice get-away weekend with my wife," said Follmer.

## What are your plans for liberty in Hawaii?



**CS3 Darrell Stewart**  
"I think it will be 'the bomb.' Going to Hawaii and representing the *Tarawa* will be cool!"



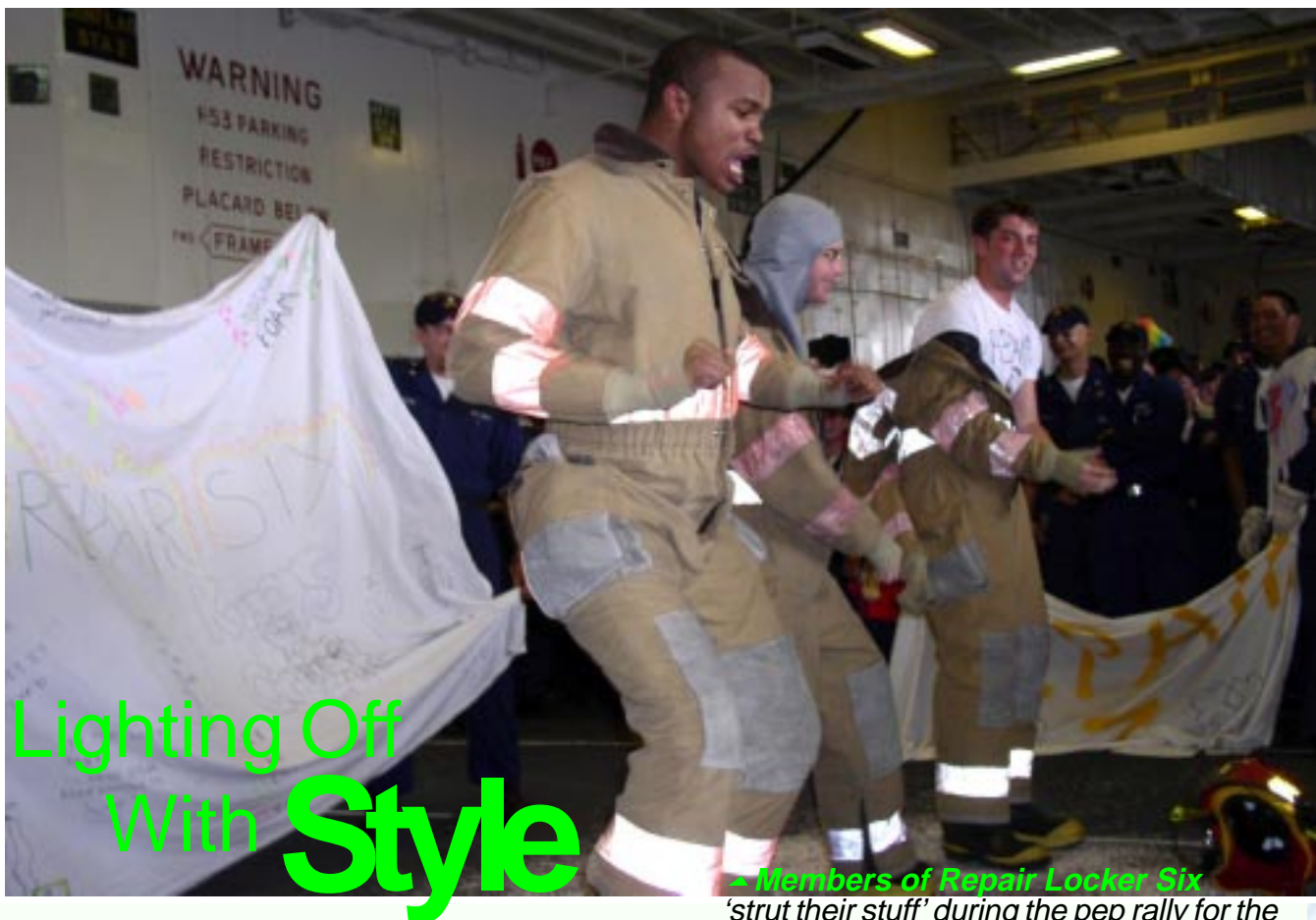
**EMFN Leonardo Garcia**  
"I am going to lay on the beach, and party the nights away."



**MMFN Derrick Henry**  
"I have never been there before. My cousin is also in the Navy, and he's stationed there, so I can see him."



**LISR Elena Velazquez**  
"I have never been there before, but I'm looking forward to the beaches."



# Lighting Off With Style

► Members of Repair Locker Six 'strut their stuff' during the pep rally for the ship's Light Off Assessment.  
Photo by PH2 Larry Carlson

By JOSN David Perea

The atmosphere was charged, the music was pumping and the ship's hangar bay seemed more like a football pep rally than a ship preparing for an inspection. But it didn't seem to matter to anyone there as they got psyched-up for the ship's first big inspection, the Light Off Assessment (LOA) in March. The rally kicked off a wave of enthusiasm onboard to prepare for the first in a long line of inspections as the crew gets ready for the next major deployment.

"This motivation was an important part of our success," said Lieutenant, junior grade Mahdi Cocci. "We wanted to avoid 'auto-pilot' mode so that we could maintain that 'train-like-we-fight' mentality."

The LOA provided an evaluation of the ship's engineering department and the repair locker personnel's abilities to handle a major fire. To prepare, the crew conducted daily training for a month beforehand in the tactics of proper fire fighting.

"Day-in and day-out we dressed in our fire fighting ensembles, sweated and pushed ourselves to get to where we are now," said Personnelman Seaman Ron Cunanan.

A major part of the assessment was the inspection of the engineering spaces. Everyone in Engineering Depart-

ment worked long, hard hours to ensure the successful operation of the ship's power plant before the actual light off of the boilers.

"This was the catalyst to the future success of the ship," said Cocci. "This set the tone for success in the ship's future evolutions."

According to the senior assessor from Afloat Training Group Pacific, Captain William Haflich, the crew's enthusiasm was outstanding, and *Tarawa* was the first ship on the waterfront to pass the initial LOA in over a year.

"Passing LOA was like having the keys to drive your car. It's important, because it's the initial step," said Hull Maintenance Technician Chief Patrick Martinez, a repair locker leader. "We have come further and faster than any other platform I have seen," said Martinez.

With the assessment completed, *Tarawa's* boilers are lighted off, and the ship has returned to sea to face a series of sea trials in preparation for its next deployment.

"We're off to a great start, but we don't want to rest on our laurels," said Executive Officer Capt. Peter Murphy. "We're going to come in every day with our sleeves rolled up and ready to work."



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**Not to be outdone, Repair Locker**  
 ur members, sporting a definite Saint  
 rick's Day theme, give a 'thumbs up'  
 ing the rally to show that they're ready  
 pass the Light Off Assessment.  
 Photo by PH2 Larry Carlson

► **Right, "DJ Richard,"**  
 aka Lithographer 2nd  
 Class Richard Perez,  
 mixes his hip-hop beats to  
 get the ship's crew  
 pumped up for the rally.  
 Photo by PHAN Rayma  
 Cooley







## *Celebrating Tarawa Women*

*Above, Hull Maintenance Technician 2nd Class Teena Gusler is one of the approximately 240 women stationed on Tarawa.*



*Above, Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Ferly Walkup (front, right) shares her experience about the bridge watch with new members of Deck Department.*

*Photos By PHAN Rayma Cooley*

**By JO3 Crystal Landes**

During a ceremony that would have been unheard of 50 years ago, shipmates here honored women who have helped shape American history and have made it possible to celebrate Women's History Month today.

During the ceremony, held while the ship was underway for sea trials in early April, crewmembers mustered in the hangar bay to honor and recognize the accomplishments of American women.

"The Women's History Month celebration commemorates all the significant contributions that women have made in the past and also in the present, including the ladies of USS Tarawa, who make up a significant percentage of the

ship's crew," said event coordinator Lt. Cmdr. Sook Chai, who is also Tarawa's Dental Officer.

Six volunteers from the Tarawa Women's History Month committee, ranging from lower enlisted to senior commissioned officers, each read a biography of a woman who stepped out of the traditional roles of women for their time. Among the readers was Boatswains' Mate 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Julissa Franklin, who presented the biography of Navy Rear Adm. Grace Hopper, a woman who dedicated her entire life to serving her country.

Hopper received many honors including the National Medal of Technology, Legion of Merit and the Navy Meritorious Service Medal. At the age of 80, Hopper became the oldest active duty officer in the United States.

Aviation Electronics Technician 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Jacqueline Shadwick began by reading a short synopsis of Harriet Tubman's life and accomplishments. Tubman earned her place in history during America's antebellum period in the mid 1800s by leading more than 300 slaves to freedom during 19 trips along the Underground Railroad.

"I chose her because she unselfishly put her life on the line in order to help free other slaves," said Shadwick. "Her dedication in helping to promote equality was courageous and has inspired many."

After a slide show featuring photos of Tarawa women at work and a brief speech by Commanding Officer Capt. John Riley, Tarawa's ladies cut a cake to celebrate the youngest and oldest enlisted female crewmembers.

"I really enjoyed our ceremony because it shows the diversity of the women we have onboard and in the Navy," said Photographer's Mate Airman Rayma Cooley, who helped present the ceremony.



Above, Quartermaster 3rd Class Alice Hall (left) explains the next course to be taken on the ship's bridge to Ensign Shonli Harris during a recent underway

## *A brief history behind the history*

*In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women in California, began a "Women's History Week" celebration. The week was chosen to coincide with International Women's Day, which was first celebrated March 8, 1911, in Europe.*

*Three years later, the United States Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women's History Week, which was expanded to a month in 1978 at the request of the National Women's History Project. Every year since then the U.S. Congress has issued a resolution for Women's History Month.*



# Local Class Takes A Field Trip Into Larger World

By Journalist 3rd Class Crystal Landes

Twenty students from Mrs. Sandy Bennett's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class at Bancroft Elementary, located in San Diego, talked excitedly as they walked down the pier on their way to see Tarawa for a field trip April 26.

The students, who were learning about world travel, were divided into four groups in the classroom. Each group was named after a Navy amphibious ship. The names of the groups are USS Peleliu, USS Nassau, USS Saipan and USS Tarawa.

Bennett felt that for the children to see one of the Navy ships outside of the classroom would provide the chance for a better understanding about the Navy and world travel.

"These kids all come from very different backgrounds and have rallied together. You can tell they really love it," said Bennett. "They have asked some interesting questions for sure, as they always do. We have never had this opportunity in the past, so it really worked out nicely."

During the tour the students were introduced to the quarterdeck, brow of

the ship, repair lockers, navigation equipment and more. They saw the well deck, hangar bay, enlisted mess decks, flight deck and bridge. They finished the tour by eating their bag lunches in the wardroom.

A student of Mrs. Bennett's class was amazed by the size of the ship. "It reminded me of an island because it's so big," said Quiana Thompson. "My favorite part of the tour was going on the top part of the ship because I could see so much," she said, referring to the flight deck.

"They were really interested in everything," said Master at Arms 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Stephanie Wilbur, who helped escort the group. "They were amazed at how everything was set up. They said, 'This is like a neighborhood. Here's the post office, here's the police station.'"

Bennett felt the tour was very beneficial to her students. Because most of her students stay with her two years, she said, "Until recently, I didn't know that we could do this. I would love to take them on this trip every other year."

## UP AND RUNNIN'

Continued from Page 1

Fire Controlman Chief Alan Jones and his team. "After months in the shipyards, they were right on target and they took it out on the first try. These people take pride in their equipment and it showed today."

"I enjoyed hearing that gun go and seeing the target splash," said Fire Controlman 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Crystal Rogers, one of the three female-member CIWS team that is quickly picking up the nickname "Charlie's Angels" around the ship for their marksmanship.

"They didn't think we would hit it on the first shot, so they only brought one target," said "Angel" Fire Controlman 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Charity Woodard.

Meanwhile, down in the well deck, Boatswain's Mate 2<sup>nd</sup> Class William Garcia had his crew up and running, as he helped launch and recover the various landing craft and amphibious assault vehicles.

"Well deck operations are a big part of what we do underway," said Garcia, who watches out for such things as a boat line possibly under too much strain or a Sailor not focusing on the job at hand. "With the experience we get here, we're more prepared to man-up at a moment's notice and operate the well deck safely and effectively."

The return of the Harrier jets brought back familiar sounds for Aviation Boatswain's Mate 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ronnie Padilla, a "veteran" of Tarawa's flight deck.

"Since the shipyard period, we've had a lot of new people check in, plus we haven't had a lot of Harriers on deck," said Garcia. "This is what we work for, to hear those jets landing on the flight deck."

There will be plenty of opportunity for Padilla, Garcia and "Charlie's Angels" — as well as the rest of Tarawa's crew — to get all of their "bell and whistles" up and running. For the near future, they'll spend comparatively more time at sea. And, this comes not a moment too soon. In early summer, they'll head west to put the skills they've recently learned to the test off the coast of Hawaii, where they'll participate in the multinational naval exercise 2004 Rim of the Pacific.





# Crew Pushes Through CART II Assessment



By Journalist Seaman  
David Perea

After a successful Light Off Assessment, the crew headed to sea April 19-22 to take on the next challenge in preparing to deploy overseas. This next inspection is called the Command Assessment of Readiness and Training, better known by its acronym CART II.

Before leaving port, the crew welcomed the team of inspectors, who assessed Tarawa's CART II, with the "Eagle of the Sea Gauntlet." As the 30-member team of assessors from the Pacific Afloat Training Group (ATG) came aboard in the early morning hours of April 19, they passed through two parallel walls of noisy, shouting Tarawa Sailors who bombarded them with yells and chants of confidence, and a medley of high-volume music as a backdrop.

"We really wanted them to know that we were ready," said Lt. j.g. Rose Goscinski, Tarawa's assistant damage control officer who urged on the "Gauntlet" by microphone.

Once everyone was on board, no time was wasted in the evaluation. Starting the first day, the ship underwent

various drills throughout the day, including flight deck and hangar bay fire drills, mass-casualty drills for repair lockers and engineering drills.

"During one time in my repair locker, there was an actual casualty, and we dealt with it and pressed on to finish the drill," said Aviation Electronics Technician 3rd Class Cristine Orellana. "It just showed how prepared we were to work as a team because of all the training we had."

The assessors were on hand for every drill to make their evaluations.

"The purpose of this was to get a snapshot of where the ship stands in its training and readiness," said assessor Lt. Warren Wattles. "It also accurately provided training throughout the basic phase so we can determine what the ship needs and what the ship doesn't need."

With rarely a drill-free hour, Tarawa

crewmembers kept on their toes for any emergency thrown their way.

"During CART II, sometimes it feels like all of these drills are dropping out of the sky at the same time. This obviously wasn't the real thing, but we had to treat it like it was the real thing, especially under the watchful eye of the assessors," said Hull Maintenance Technician 1st Class James Follmer, the omnipresent repair locker leader who seemed to be knocking out every firefighting scenario that the assessors could come up with.

The drills were tough and the scenarios challenging, but the situation may have been better than it seemed. Half way through the assessment, Lt. Wattles said, "Tarawa is doing fairly well. From what I've seen they've performed better than the average ship on the waterfront."

Photo by PH2 Ryan Child

# PROUD EAGLES OF THE SEA

*Congratulations to the following crewmembers for awards during the past quarter!*

## FROCKINGS

### 1ST CLASS



CTM1(SW) Daniel Abeyta  
CTT1(SW/AW) Jared Allen  
EM1(SW) Charlene Eckstein  
IC1(SW/AW) Erika Gonzalez  
AD1(AW) Mohammad Khan  
SK1(AW) Jose Ortega  
DC1(SW) Michael Penny  
MM1 Genesis Salazar  
EM1 Llewelyn Uson  
AM1 Ricardo Valencia Villanueva  
MA1 David Webster  
AO1 Bryan Wilcox

### 2ND CLASS



IC2 Willie Anderson  
AG2(AW) Rebecca Archibald  
SK2 Jorge Bailon  
QM2(SW/AW) Jovan Barnhill  
IT2 Dudley Barton  
IS2 John Bennett  
IT2 Christopher Bentley  
ABH2 Nicholas Cortez Arellano

IT2 Jacob Davidson  
MM2 Tyson Davis  
SK2 Jerome Exum  
SK2(SW/AW) Leslie Flores  
IT2 Toccara Foster  
MM2 Nick Garcia  
AO2 Orlando Germany  
AO2 Adam Gilmore  
EM2 Marius Gliz  
MM2 Gonzalo Guerrero Avila  
CTT2 Ruth Harrington  
AG2 Yvonne Hartshorn  
MM2 Jeremiah Heller  
IS2 Jonathan Johnston  
YN2 Otis Lovett  
MM2 Curtis Martin  
SK2 Martha Maya Hernandez

### FROCKINGS

ABH2(AW/SW) Akiel Mayers  
SK2 Michael Mikolic  
MA2 Robert Pallozzi  
FC2 Nicholas Parker  
EM2 Luis Perez  
MA2 Ronald Perez  
MA2 Robert Regan  
HT2 Todd Riley  
DC2 Reymundo Rojo  
IT2 Carl Sabas  
AT2 Jacquelyn Shadwick  
AM2 Michael Sleet  
MM2 Anthony D. Smith  
MM2 Anthony J. Smith  
AO2(AW) Michael Stevens  
YN2 Chenaka Townsend  
AS2 Gregrick Turner  
MM2 Nakia Warren  
MA2(SW) Stephanie Anne Wilbur

### 3RD CLASS



SK3(SW) Mark Biscocho  
MM3 Jonathan Bone  
EN3 Tate Brandon  
MM3 Brent Brewer  
PN3 Ronald Cunanan  
PC3 Patrick Downs  
SK3 Erwin Edralin  
MM3 Christopher Brewington

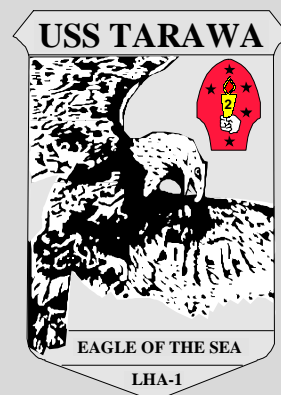
HT3 Brian Emerson  
ABF3 Moises Esparza  
EM3(SW) Fabian Estrada  
RP3 Ulymay Ferguson  
MM3 Christopher Garcia  
IT3 Blake Gombrich  
DC3 Chad Gore  
IC3 William Graves  
EM3 Travis Harris  
MM3 Damaris Harrison  
AZ3 Jessica Jaramillo  
CS3 Yoichi Kato  
IS3(SW) Crystal Korchmaros

### FROCKINGS

ABH3 Jose Lomelirival-Caba  
AO3 Andrew Main  
IS3 Ryan Martin  
AS3(AW) Christopher Meddaugh  
SK3 Claudia Medina Ortiz  
YN3(AW) Bonnie Miller  
EM3 Kevin Molina  
EM3 Josh Murray  
AO3(AW) Randall Petronko  
ABH3 Aaron Robeck  
SK3 Gustavo Roldan Castillo  
ET3 Jason Salas  
ABH3 Fresia Salazar  
AC3 Anthony Salvatori  
EN3(SW) Josaphat Satenay  
ABH3 Clint Schindewolf  
SH3 Ligia Segura  
CS3 Amanda Shaw  
SK3(SW) Christopher Singh  
MR3 Jesper Sison  
ABH3 Demario Smith  
AD3 Gregory Smith  
ABH3 Shawn Thorson  
IT3 Matthew Trojan  
EN3 Bruno Verdin  
AM3(AW/SW) Jennifer Wilson  
IS3 Rebecca Winkleman  
IT3 Kristi Young

### SELECTED

AN Holly Bremer  
AN Alfonsokumar Limtengco  
AN Bao Pierce  
SN Jamie Reis  
AN Pihavilah Thompson





# PROUD EAGLES OF THE SEA

*Congratulations to the following crewmembers for awards during the past quarter!*

## Meritorious Service Award

CMDCM (SW/AW) Tom Shields

## ENLISTED SURFACE WARFARE SPECIALIST (ESWS)



EM1(SW) Allen Larsen  
IT2(SW) Jennifer Mercado  
EM2(SW) Jacob Schmidt

## ENLISTED AVIATION WARFARE SPECIALIST (EAWS)



AC1(AW) Mitchel Deshotel  
EM1(SW/AW) Steve Edquiban  
MA1(SW/AW) Misty Galang  
ABH2(AW) James Penkert  
IT2(SW/AW) Shalimar Salvador  
PN2(SW/AW) Lanelle Hawthorne  
SK2(SW/AW) Richardo Munoz

## NAVY COMMENDATION MEDALS



SHCS Arnold Reyes  
Gunny Sgt. Rodriguez  
AC1 Richard Burnell  
IC1 Jim Kentner  
MA1 Christopher Rupp  
RP1(FMF)  
Jeffrey Schadler

## NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS



ENS Michael Powell  
SHCS Arnold Reyes  
PC1 Frances Crawford  
AG1(AW/SW)  
Jeffery Jackson  
EM1 Robert Torres  
CS2 Arnold Dones  
ABH2 George Gonzalez  
EM2 Marius Gliz  
MM3 Lashawn Patterson  
M3 Salawaisa Rakanace

## GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

AS3 Waseem Baraby  
ABF3 Dexter Barras  
FC3 Ryan Lewis

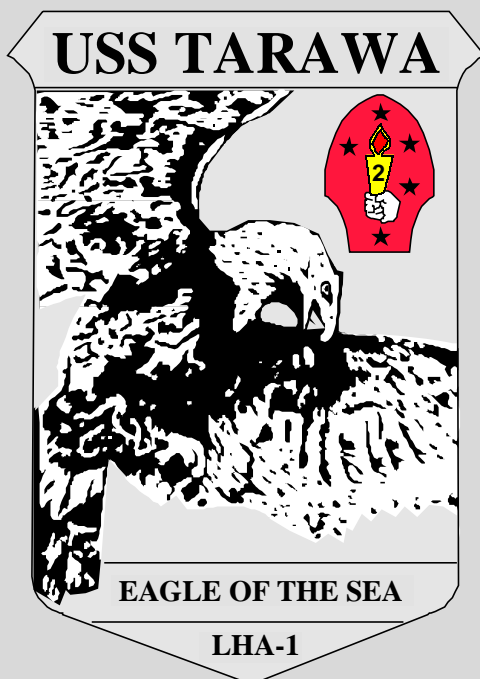


## Flag Letter of Commendation

HM2 David Jones  
HM1 Christopher Semano  
HM2 Patrick Mangaran  
HM2 Lamonte Reese  
HM3 Maria Chacon  
HM3 Loreto Cruz  
HM3 Crystal Day  
HM3 Koudjo Elitsa  
IT3 Marjorie Ortega  
CS3 Jack Brown  
CS3 Rosanna Reyes  
HM3 Brittany Sampson  
PCSN Patrick Downs

## Letter of Commendation

SK1 Ruby Lim  
AT2 Robert Campbell  
IS2 Tiffany Sherman  
IS3 Jonathan Johnston  
CTO3(SW) Harrold Fay



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS TARAWA (LHA 1)  
FPO AP 96622-1600

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**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

